



## CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

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Contact: Larry Dickerson, Interim Public Safety Director  
City of Bainbridge Island  
[ldickerson@bainbridgewa.gov](mailto:ldickerson@bainbridgewa.gov)  
(206) 842-5211

### **City Recognizes National Police Week**

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, May 9, 2013 – Again this year, communities across the United States will come together during National Police Week—May 12-18—to honor and remember those law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice, as well as the family members, friends and fellow officers they left behind.

In 1962, President Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15 falls as National Police Week. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those Law Enforcement Officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others.

This year, the names of 321 officers killed in the line of duty are being added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC. Included in the dedication this year will be Washington State Patrol Trooper Tony Radulescu who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty on February 23, 2012. Trooper Radulescu died from gunfire during a traffic stop in Gorst. Trooper Radulescu was 44 years of age and had 16 years of law enforcement service.

“This week is a great time to honor your local law enforcement officers who serve your community on a daily basis as well as reflect on those who lost their lives protecting the citizens of this county,” said Interim Public Safety Director Larry Dickerson. “The hope is that awareness and support can help prevent line of duty deaths that occur all too often in our profession.”

On May 13, the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Candlelight Vigil will take place and the names of the fallen officers will be dedicated at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC. People across the country can experience this unique and powerful ceremony by live webcast over the Internet beginning at 5 pm (PDT) on May 13. To register for this free online event, visit [www.LawMemorial.org/webcast](http://www.LawMemorial.org/webcast).

The Candlelight Vigil and national observance is organized by a group of organizations led by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF), Concerns of Police Survivors, the Fraternal Order of Police and the Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary.

In tribute to American law enforcement officers and at the request of the NLEOMF, Public Law 103-322 designates May 15 National Peace Officers Memorial Day, which is one of only two days each year during which government agencies, businesses and residents are to fly their U.S. flags at half staff. The Bainbridge Island Police Department encourages citizens to honor our fallen heroes by flying their U.S. flags at half staff.

Locally, there are several opportunities to honor National Police Week. On May 15, during the regular City Council study session, there will be a reading of the National Police Week Proclamation. There will also be blue ribbons available at the City Council meeting and at the Police Department. The ribbons can be displayed or worn to honor National Police Week and show support for local officers. Citizens can also display blue lights or candles in their home or business windows throughout the week. Additionally, *Inside Bainbridge* will be honoring Bainbridge Island Police Department members with a daily 'Behind the Badge' feature.

For more information about National Police Week, please visit [www.LawMemorial.org/policeweek](http://www.LawMemorial.org/policeweek).

You can also sign a pledge to show your support for law enforcement and 'Stand with the Thin Blue Line' by visiting the following website: <http://www.nleomf.org/officers/support-law-enforcement/>.

For more information about Police Week events occurring locally, contact Officer Aimee LaClaire (842-5211, [alacaire@bainbridgewa.gov](mailto:alacaire@bainbridgewa.gov)).

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